

## **U.S. Embassy Asuncion, Paraguay**

**April 1, 2017**

### **Security Message for US Citizens: UPDATE 1 - Unscheduled Protests – Avoid Downtown Asuncion**

#### **DOWNTOWN:**

Violence downtown subsided at approximately 11:00 PM last night. While the situation is calm this morning, there is the potential for protests to resume with little to no notice. Travel to the downtown area including Plaza de Armas, Plaza Uruguay and the vicinity south of the Costanera is currently restricted for official U.S. travelers. Out of an abundance of caution, official U.S. personnel are also recommended to observe a curfew at dusk, which is approximately 6:00 PM in Asuncion.

U.S. citizens are encouraged to defer non-essential travel to the affected area until further notice. U.S. citizens are also encouraged to closely follow news coverage of breaking events, keep cell phones charged and handy, and carefully weigh non-essential travel in and around Asuncion after dark, as conditions could deteriorate quickly. At the current time, airports remain open and unrestricted.

Even demonstrations intended to be peaceful can turn confrontational and escalate into violence. You should avoid areas of demonstrations, and exercise caution if in the vicinity of any large gatherings, protests, or demonstrations.

Review your personal security plans; remain aware of your surroundings, including local events; and monitor local news stations for updates. Maintain a high level of vigilance and take appropriate steps to enhance your personal security.

- See the [State Department's travel website](#) for the [Worldwide Caution](#), Travel Warnings, Travel Alerts, and [Paraguay Specific Information](#).
- Enroll in the [Smart Traveler Enrollment Program \(STEP\)](#) to receive security messages and make it easier to locate you in an emergency.
- Contact the U.S. Embassy in Paraguay located at 1776 Mariscal Lopez Avenue at +595 21 213 715 from 7:30 a.m. to 5.30 p.m. Monday through Thursday and 7:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. on Friday. After-hours emergency number for U.S. citizens is +595 21 213 715 extension 2210 or +595 21 213 715 and listen to the prompt for emergencies.
- Call 1-888-407-4747 toll-free in the United States and Canada or 1-202-501-4444 from other countries from 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. Eastern Standard Time, Monday through Friday (except U.S. federal holidays).
- Follow us on [Twitter](#) and [Facebook](#).